

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. CAPITO led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. CURTIS, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a joint resolution of the House of the following title:

H.J. Res. 62. Joint resolution appointing the day for the convening of the second session of the One Hundred Eleventh Congress.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1755. An act to direct the Department of Homeland Security to undertake a study on emergency communications.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 276a of title 22, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, appoints the following Senator as Vice Chairman of the United States-China Interparliamentary Group conference during the One Hundred Eleventh Congress:

The Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND.)

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 106-398, as amended by Public Law 108-7, in accordance with the qualifications specified under section 1238(b)(3)(E) of Public Law 106-398, and upon the recommendation of the Republican Leader, in consultation with the Ranking Members of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, reappoints the following individual to the United States-China Economic Security Review Commission:

Daniel Blumenthal of Maryland, for a term beginning January 1, 2010, and expiring December 31, 2011.

IS THIS REALLY THE BEST WE CAN DO?

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KUCINICH. The word is that, with over 15 million Americans out of work and desperately in need of extended unemployment benefits, Congress will put unemployment compensation benefits into a bill which will give another \$130 billion for war. Remember, our Democratic Party took

control of Congress based on widespread opposition to the Iraq war. Unfortunately, we're now telling the American people the only way they'll get their unemployment compensation is to support another \$130 billion to keep wars going.

What a cruel choice Congress is forcing on people out of work: Put your sons and daughters on the firing line, and we'll pay you for being in the unemployment line. What a message to young Americans. No jobs for young people except to go to war. No chance for young people to go to college and have health care unless they learn to kill or be killed. Support this war, we tell the people, the war, which creates death, war which creates poverty, and war which creates unemployment, and we'll pay you for being unemployed.

Is this really the best we can do?

MORE JOB CREATION ALTERNATIVES

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, there are many jobs creation proposals that have been presented but have been ignored. Many will help promote jobs immediately, provide a 5 percent across-the-board tax cut, increase the child tax credit from \$1,000 to \$5,000, repeal the alternative minimum tax on individuals, permanently repeal required distributions on retirement accounts, increase by 50 percent the tax deduction on student loans and tax deduction on qualified higher education expenses, make unemployment benefits tax free so those individuals between jobs can focus on providing for their families, and, to encourage responsible buyers to enter the housing market and stabilize prices, offer a homebuyer's tax credit of \$15,000.

Both parties should consider positive alternatives that offer tax relief to small businesses and families to promote job creation.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism. Our prayers are with Wayne Dell and his family.

THE BEST SOCIAL PROGRAM IS A JOB

(Mr. COURTNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, the best social program is a job. It provides individuals and families with the means to support themselves. It also provides dignity and confidence to know that they actually have a viable future. That's why in eastern Connecticut we were very pleased a couple of weeks ago that the stimulus bill released money for the incumbent worker training program, a program which

will provide 800 new jobs with funds directly sent to small- and medium-sized businesses, which is part of, again, the tried and true program that the stimulus bill expanded.

The president of Willimantic Savings Institute, Rheo A. Brouillard, who's going to have 200 new workers as a result of this program, said, The grants have assisted us in hiring of entry-level employees and enabled us to provide them with new skills needed to more readily advance their banking careers. The Norwich Bulletin, the largest newspaper in New London County, indicated that this is an excellent program, and this is what the stimulus package was intended to do.

Putting people to work is the best way to build a strong and vibrant economy. We need to build on the stimulus bill with these types of programs: first-time homebuyer tax credit, Cash For Clunkers, incumbent worker training programs. Steadily but surely we are turning this economy around, and we need a new jobs package to build on that success.

NANCY SHOBE'S RETIREMENT

(Mrs. CAPITO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nancy Shobe on her 41 years of service to the constituents of Buckhannon, West Virginia, and to congratulate her on her upcoming retirement.

Nancy has served as the secretary to the mayor, computer systems manager, human resource manager, recorder, treasurer, and acting mayor during her 41 years of service to the city of Buckhannon. She's served as president of the Municipal Clerks and Recorders Association and was selected as Clerk of the Year in 1997 and 1998. She also received a Certificate of Highest Merit from West Virginia University's Local Government Leadership Academy. And most recently, she was awarded the Quiet Strength Award for her outstanding leadership.

Nancy's leadership was proven during the difficult times after the Sago Mine disaster. Being the closest incorporated city to the Sago Mine, the city of Buckhannon was able to provide grief counseling for the families of the Sago miners, largely due to her efforts.

She has proven herself to be a true leader and a dedicated public servant whose positive impact in our community will be felt for many years to come.

I join with the residents of Buckhannon, West Virginia, in commending Nancy Shobe for her outstanding leadership and commitment over the past 41 years, and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring her.

A NEW DEAL FOR A NEW ECONOMY

(Mr. HARE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1